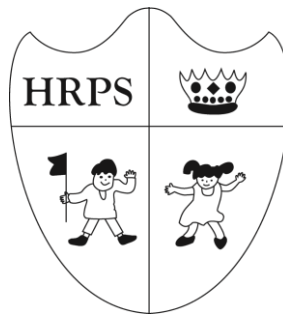


Houghton Regis

Headteacher: Mr J Edwards BA (Hons) QTS
Deputy Head: Mrs R Parmar BA (Hons) PGCE

Telephone: 01582 867487
Fax: 01582 867487

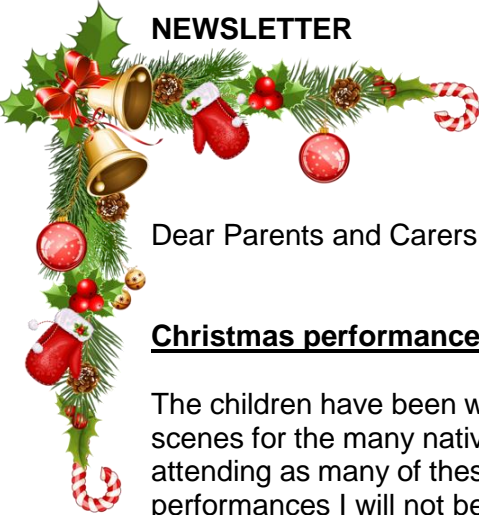
Email: office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk
Website: www.houghtonregisprimary.co.uk



Primary School

St Michaels Avenue
Houghton Regis
Dunstable
Beds
LU5 5DH

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers

Christmas performances

The children have been working hard learning their lines, practicing their carols and rehearsing their scenes for the many nativity plays and carol concerts the school will be putting on this year. I will be attending as many of these as my other commitments allow this year and Mrs Parmar will attend the performances I will not be present for.

I need to remind everyone that we will again not be allowing parents to take pictures or film during the productions. Parents will be able to take a photo of their own child at the end of the event. We would like to encourage parents to enjoy the moment and not have to look at the nativity plays through a sea of smartphone screens! Furthermore, the governors wish to be fully GDPR compliant in this area. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas lunch- Wednesday, 13 December 2023

This year we have our Christmas jumper day to co-inside with our Christmas Dinner Day.

Please note that on Wednesday 13 December your child can wear a Christmas jumper alongside the rest of the school uniform.

List of acceptable outfits for Christmas Jumper Day:

- A Christmas Jumper worn with grey school trousers and grey/white socks.
- A Christmas Jumper worn with a grey skirt and grey or green school tights.
- A Christmas dress worn with grey or green school tights.

Please note this is not a mufti day and only the outfits described above are allowed.

Please select your child's Christmas lunch option on SchoolGrid.

8 December 2023

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas Turkey and Chipolata Sausage Trimmings of Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy
OR
Festive Veggie Wellington (v) OR Festive Quorn Fillet (v) With a Veggie Sausage (v) Trimmings of Sage and Onion Stuffing and Vegetarian Gravy

With Roast Potatoes and a Choice of Seasonal Vegetables

A Choice of Christmas Desserts

School Clubs

Please note that on the last week of term there are no School Clubs. All Clubs return in January 2024.

Last day of term

I would like to remind you that school finishes on Wednesday, 20 December at 2:00pm.

School Grid

The lunch menu is available on School Grid and can be booked several weeks in advance. This gives you the opportunity to log into your account to make your child's lunch selections. If you experience difficulties accessing your account please visit the school office.

If your child is not attending school please remember to deselect your order. If you do not, HCL will charge for this meal.

Thank you to our PTA for their seasonal efforts

A big thank you to the PTA who spent a recent evening decorating the school for the Christmas season. Our hall Christmas tree is really beautiful. Unfortunately, due to the heating situation the dressing of the Christmas tree advent assembly was not able to take place this year so the PTAs efforts in this area are particularly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mr James Edwards

Headteacher



Free school meals

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call the Local Authority on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- Dates of birth for your children
- If you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

If your application is successful, please contact the school office to confirm this to enable us to update our records to reflect this.

School Admissions 2024

Central Bedfordshire Council have produced a booklet to help you with applying for your child's school place for 2024.

The following link will take you to the booklet

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions

The national closing dates for applications to be received by the School Admissions Team are:

15 January 2024

- Starting School 2024
- Transfer to Middle 2024





UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Year groups involved	Date
The Snowman at the Peacock Theatre	Year 2-5	Friday, 15 December 2023
<u>Christmas events</u>		
Jingle and Mingle	Early Years	Monday, 11 December 2023, 9:10am and 2:00pm
Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day	All	Wednesday, 13 December 2023
PTA Christmas Disco	Year 3 & Year 4	Friday, 15 December 2023, 3:20-4:20pm
PTA Christmas Disco	Year 5 & Year 6	Friday, 15 December 2023, 4:30-5:30pm
Reception Nativity	Reception	Thursday, 14 December 2023, 9:15am and 2:30pm
Year 1 Nativity	Year 1	Tuesday, 19 December 2023, 10am
Year 1 Nativity	Year 1	Tuesday, 19 December 2023, 2pm
Last day of term	All	Wednesday, 20 December 2023 school closes at 2:00pm



Values-based Education
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University of Bedfordshire



***This week's
Attendance Awards***




Reception/KS1 Prince Louis–
Orange 100%

Lower KS2 Princess Charlotte –
Charlotte 98.5%

Upper KS2 Prince George–
Elizabeth 95.4%



Star Awards

			
Danny DETERMINATION says, "DON'T GIVE UP."	Colin CURIOSITY says, "THINK FOR YOURSELF."	Chloe COMMUNICATION says, "RESPECT OTHERS."	Izzy INDEPENDENCE says, "DO YOUR BEST."
Sonia M	Arthur C	Jessica-Rose B	Natalie M
Lola S	Bella S	Adam G	Edward M
Ruth P	Bailey C	Honey Y	Violet H
Joel B	Leon S	Kyrie A	Antonia
Levi U			Zaima Z
Lara R			Abeeha U
Amira E			Arran G
Harry F			Anton R
Ben C			Oliver F
Andrei R			
Victoria T			



You Are Invited To

HRPS Christmas
Disco

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
NURSERY/ RECEPTION | 2-3PM
 (Bring clothes to change in to)
YEARS 1 AND 2 | 3:15-4:15PM
 (Bring clothes to change in to)

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER
YEARS 3 AND 4 | 3:20-4:20PM
 (Bring clothes to change in to)
YEARS 5 AND 6 | 4:30-5:30PM

Entry is £3 which includes a free drink & bag of sweets to every child

Payments can be made to the PTA in the gazebo (morning and afternoon) starting Nov 13th. Both cash and cards are accepted.



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience; these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=#f68cdd3dbefc49860f3eac033361870 https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=#53e80fbd44d403a1eb2ed3919396 https://help.disneyplus.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=#9a2efc6dbd0ac5005ceac03391917 <https://help.disneyplus.com/en-GB/article/disneyplus-en-us-scam-prevention#--text=be%20war%20of%20sites%20that%20pass%20or%20billing%20details>

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